

Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

IN MEMORIAM.

JOHN MEREDITH READ, LL.D.


PAST GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

JAMES SIMPSON,

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

REV. ROBERT HENRY PATTISON, D.D.

MOST EXCELLENT GRAND KING.



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*Steam-Press of Chas. C. Douglass,
21 N. Sixth St. Philadelphia.*

Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter

OF

Pennsylvania.

At the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, held in Renaissance Hall, New Masonic Temple, May 6th, 1875, A. I. 2405, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Companion ANDREW ROBENO, JR., announced the death of Companion, the HON. JOHN MEREDITH READ, Past Grand High Priest; and Companion JAMES SIMPSON, Past Grand High Priest.

Companion Past Grand High Priest SAMUEL C. PERKINS, at the request of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, read an address commemorative of Past Grand High Priest JOHN MEREDITH READ; and Companion Past Grand High Priest CHARLES E. MEYER in commemoration of Past Grand High Priest JAMES SIMPSON.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest then announced the death of the Most Excellent Grand King, Companion REV. ROBERT HENRY PATTISON, D. D., when Companion M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ submitted a Series of Resolutions.

The several Addresses and Resolutions were unanimously approved and adopted by the Grand Chapter.



Companion Past Grand High Priest SAMUEL C. PERKINS, addressing the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, said:

MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST:

It is eminently fitting that a distinct record be made of the life and services of those who have taken an active interest in the welfare and advancement of Royal Arch Masonry, and filled the high offices which form part of the system of its administration and government. Especially is it due to the memory of those who, with a deep appreciation of the distinctive features of this branch of the Masonic organization, have been its faithful and true friends in earlier days, before it had attained its present commanding position, that their surviving Companions of later generations should bear testimony to the veneration and respect which their distinguished services and Masonic character have inspired. They have toiled and labored to strengthen and render firm and solid the foundations upon which rest this branch of the Royal art, and have been called from their earthly labors. We who survive are enjoying the fruits of their devotion and efforts, have been benefitted by their example, and stimulated to a higher endeavor to carry forward the work so nobly begun, in a continued and ever continuing process of completion, until we too shall be summoned to stand before the Grand Overseer on high, and leave to our successors through the ages to come, the trust which we have been permitted for a time to occupy. It is not easy for us to fully appreciate the deep-seated and earnest attachment to the principles and teachings of our Fraternity, which

characterized and sustained those who have manifested their faith by an unswerving fidelity in their ministrations at the altar of the Craft, through periods of darkness and persecution. But gratitude at least we cannot but feel and manifest, as now in the days of the prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry, when the flame upon her altar rises clear and bright, we recall the patience, firmness, zeal and devotion of those who, tried and steadfast, permitted not the sacred fire to be extinguished by ruthless and relentless opposers; and that gratitude, it is meet, should take definite expression by such a minute of the virtues and excellencies of the departed upon the records of the Grand Chapter, as shall signify in some degree our esteem of their lasting value and benefit to the Craft.

It is well too, that we should pause amidst the ordinary routine of the Grand Chapter and take to ourselves, with renewed force, the admonition which death always gives, even to the most heedless. As those upon whose judgments and counsels we have been wont to rely, are removed from the midst of us, the burdens and responsibilities of the present rest with increased pressure upon those who yet remain among the living. A renewed courage, a more earnest spirit, a trust of greater assurance, a calmer devotion, a stronger attachment, a deeper conviction, a sincerer resolve, in all that affects our relations to the Craft should be the result, as those who have stood in the foremost ranks depart, and we must advance to their positions.

The infinite and all-wise Jehovah—the great I Am, that I Am—the very God in whom we trust and whom we, as Royal Arch Masons, especially regard in our ritual and ceremonies, has taken from us, within a comparatively

recent period, not a few of those whose names are cherished and venerated in Capitular Masonry, and it is my privilege to offer a brief tribute to the memory of one of these, who as a man and a mason, lived honored and respected, and has died lamented by his fellow citizens, his brethren and companions.

COMPANION JOHN MEREDITH READ, Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest of "The Most Excellent Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging," died at his residence in this city, on Sunday, the 29th day of November, A. D. 1874, A. I. 2404, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. Prominent and distinguished as a civilian, a statesman, a lawyer and a jurist, his interest in and attachment to Freemasonry was deep-seated and heartfelt, only ceasing with his life.

Our departed Companion was initiated in Franklin Lodge, No. 134, Philadelphia, December 15th, 1821, Crafted January 19th, 1822, and raised June 15th of the same year. In December, 1823, he was elected Junior Warden, in 1824, Senior Warden, and in 1825, Worshipful Master of his Lodge; whose register bears the names of many of those marked in the Fraternity, not only by the offices which they have held, but by their zeal for the promotion of everything which tended to the prosperity and advancement of the Craft. In the Lodge, his membership and the discharge of his official duties were characterized, not only by close attention to the ritual, but by an earnest, intelligent, and ethical insight into the higher mysteries of the symbolical significance of the externals. His clear insight carried him to the highest plane of a just and full apprehension of, and appetite for, the esoteric teach-

ings and principles which underlie and uphold, upon deep-rooted foundations, the outward structure of forms and ceremonies.

His executive ability, the well ordered and systematic bent of his mental structure, were of signal advantage in the administration of the concerns of the Lodge, in all their detail. He never failed in his devotion to her cause, and his brethren repeatedly manifested their appreciation of his attachment. In December, 1831, he was for the second time elected Senior Warden; but the Lodge, under the pressure of the anti-Masonic excitement and persecution, soon after surrendered its warrant.

From December, 1831, to December, 1834, he served as R. W. Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge, by virtue of successive annual elections. In December, 1834, he was elected Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden of Grand Lodge, and in the following year, at the annual election, was chosen Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, but before the time appointed for his installation, the brother who had been elected Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, having declined the office, BROTHER READ was elected in his place; and in 1836, was called by the suffrages of his brethren in Grand Lodge, to assume the government of the Craft in Pennsylvania, as Right Worshipful Grand Master. He was re-elected to this high office in 1837, but declined a re-election in 1838.

November, 30th, 1835, while Junior Grand Warden, BROTHER READ was admitted a member of Lodge No. 51, and retained his active membership in that Lodge till his death.

The records of Royal Arch Masonry do not exist which show COMPANION READ's earlier relations to this branch of

the Fraternity. But that he was impressed with a sense of its value and importance, is manifest from the fact, that as early as 1825 he was elected Most Excellent High Priest of Chapter No. 51. In 1826, he was elected Most Excellent Grand Scribe of the Grand Chapter. In 1827, he was elected Grand King, and in the following year, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, which office he filled by annual re-elections till 1831, when he declined. In 1832, he was elected Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, but declined a re-election in 1833.

In February, 1827, the records of the Grand Chapter show that COMPANION READ was named as the First Senior Warden, in a petition for a warrant for a new Mark Lodge. The Lodge was to be called "The Standard, No 51," but, although the petition was granted, there is nothing of record to show that the Lodge was ever constituted, nor has tradition preserved the memory of anything concerning the matter.

COMPANION READ was born in Philadelphia, July 21st, 1797. He was of distinguished ancestry, but his own sterling and individual excellencies of mind and training were the ground-work of his success in life. His grandfather, GEORGE READ, was a member of the Continental Congress, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, President of the First Constitutional Convention of Delaware, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of that state, besides filling other important public offices. JOHN READ, the father of our deceased Companion, was also a man of worth and standing, and prominent in public life. And our departed Companion proved himself worthy, in all respects, of his ancestry. He was liberally educated, having passed through a college course at

the University of Pennsylvania, and graduating with high honors. In September, 1818, he was admitted to the bar of this city, of which, at the time of his death, there were but five living members who were his seniors, and among these were Companions HENRY G. FREEMAN and Past Grand Master JAMES PAGE; the loss of both of whom we have since been called to mourn.

Professionally, he became eminent and distinguished. With good natural abilities, habits of industry and application, a carefully trained mind, and a temperament well suited to patient, methodical toil and study, with careful attention to detail, and a wide grasp of intellect, he was a safe counselor and at the same time an effectual advocate at the bar. The foundation of his practice was soon laid, and it continued steadily to increase until he was called to a seat on the bench of the Supreme Court of this State. While at the bar, he was more than once called to public office in the line of his profession. He was Attorney General of the State, and United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. In 1845, he was nominated by the President to the office of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, but his confirmation by the Senate was defeated on political grounds.

In 1858, he received the nomination for Judge of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and was elected by a majority of upwards of 30,000. He served in this office for the full term of fifteen years, during the last two of which, by reason of seniority, he acted as Chief Justice. At the close of his term he retired from the bench, full of years and enjoying the honor and respect of the profession throughout the State, and of his fellow citizens in

general. He did not resume his practice after leaving the bench, and passed the short remnant of his life in literary pursuits, but maintaining his interest in all public affairs, especially those relating to his native city and state. At the time of his death, he was one of the Vice-Presidents of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and a member of the American Philosophical Society, in both of which he was an active promoter of their prosperity.

In his profession he was remarkable for the accuracy of his judgment, his methodical and thorough business habits, the carefulness of his preparation for the trial of cases, with a strict attention to every detail, his scrupulous integrity, and the zeal and ability with which he conducted the affairs intrusted to his management. As a Judge, he was patient, upright, clear, prompt, with an innate love of justice, and while paying all due respect to authority, in the search of which he depended not alone on the arguments and labors of counsel, but upon his own extensive and varied acquaintance with the whole scope of legal literature, yet he was not blindly subservient to mere decision, but sought out the principles and analogies which would render his opinions and judgments of value in themselves.

While at the bar, his opinion as counsel was frequently sought upon questions involving heavy interests, and especially those affecting the public welfare by reason of constitutional or other considerations of grave moment.

He was not indifferent to political affairs, but took an active and intelligent part in the great questions which presented themselves from time to time during his career, while he lent his influence and gave his time and services freely in the minor matters of political life, when the in-

terests involved were of a more local character. He was a member, at times, of the City Councils and of the State Legislature; and was ever earnest, devoted, and untiring in his efforts to promote what in his judgment, tended to the prosperity of his native city and state, and the advancement of the public good.

He was a firm and true friend, with a warm heart toward those who had gained his esteem and regard. No effort was too great for him when he could serve a friend. He was positive and decided in his views, which were the result of honest conviction, founded on reason and judgment, and careful investigation.

His attachment to Freemasonry was not a mere idle fancy, or the whim of a moment, and he was never indifferent to the welfare of the Fraternity, and his interest continued undiminished to the close of his life. For his belief in the usefulness of the institution and its beneficial effects in the elevation of humanity, and as an instrument for the promotion of good, was abiding and founded upon an intelligent and thorough appreciation of its principles and teachings. While High Priest of his Chapter, he prepared a series of lectures upon the sublime and impressive ritual of the Royal Arch, developing and unfolding the important truths signified in its symbolism. He felt a just pride in the increasing prosperity and stability of the Craft, and viewed with heartfelt satisfaction, the inception, progress and completion of the New Temple. He had been faithful to the Craft through the days of adversity and persecution, and was unmoved by the storm of anti-Masonic fury which was in the full tide of its malignity and fierceness just at the time when he was elected Deputy Grand Master. And when the

passions of men were subdued, and calmer reason prevailed, and under the beneficent and legitimate workings of the true principles of our civil liberty, the Fraternity were left unmolested, to pursue their happiness in their own way; loyal in their attachment to the State, and quietly working for the cause of humanity, and the growth and strength and influence of the Craft were steadily increasing, no one took more sincere pleasure and true satisfaction than COMPANION READ.

As Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, as well as of the Grand Lodge, COMPANION READ manifested the same careful and accurate attention to the business details of these offices, which characterized him in all his labors. His Masonic associates were, many of them, his companions in the forum, and his name stands as one of a bright cluster whose memory is cherished as men and as masons. Among whom were Past Grand Masters RANDALL, DALLAS and KITTERA, and the late HON. JOHN K. KANE, Judge of the District Court of the United States for this District. The last time COMPANION READ appeared in any public capacity, was as Chairman of the meeting held by the bar of this city, scarcely a year ago, upon the occasion of the death of Past Grand High Priest SAMUEL H. PERKINS, his immediate successor in the chairs of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, as well as in the office of Grand Secretary of the latter body.

At the time of his death, he was, with one exception (Companion JOSEPH S. RILEY,) the senior Past Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter; and was the oldest living Past Grand Master of Grand Lodge.

He was buried on the Thursday following his death; and by request of his family, the funeral was strictly private.

It is a pleasure, my Companions, for me thus to record the excellencies and virtues of one of my predecessors in the office of the Grand High Priesthood, and to honor the memory of one whom I justly esteemed as my own and my father's friend.

I submit for the consideration of the Grand Chapter the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, while mourning the death of Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest COMPANION JOHN MEREDITH READ, bear sincere testimony to his affection and devotion to the principles and teachings of the fraternity, and especially of Royal Arch Masonry, in their highest developments.

Resolved, That his surviving Companions will ever regard the memory of his faithful services, his firm attachment, his unflinching adherence, and his self-sacrificing efforts in behalf of the interests of our beloved fraternity, and will ever cherish his example as worthy of imitation.

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter tender to his family and friends their sincere condolence. We too have been bereft.

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter Room, with the jewels of the Grand Officers be draped in mourning for the space of six-months.

Resolved, That these proceedings be printed, and copies sent to the family of COMPANION READ, to the several Grand Chapters with whom this Grand Chapter is in correspondence, and to each Subordinate Chapter and Mark Lodge in this Jurisdiction.

Companion Past Grand High Priest CHARLES E. MEYER, addressing the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, said:

“Man’s life when compared with eternity, is but like the passing breath breathed by the dying; the spirit flees, and streameth on to eternity, endless soaring.”

MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST:

Again it has become your melancholy duty to announce to the Grand Chapter the death of one of your predecessors; and of the many of those who have passed away, there was not one whose love for Masonry, for its principles and teachings, was more ardent or whose life was better or death happier, than that of Past Grand High Priest COMPANION JAMES SIMPSON.

JAMES SIMPSON, the youngest son of JOHN and MARION SIMPSON, was born in Wilmington, Delaware, on May 21st, 1800. He was married on June 3d, 1821, to SUSAN PEPPER, by whom he had eight children, three of whom died in infancy, the youngest died in the service of his country during the late rebellion, the remaining four, one a daughter, are now living in this city, and with their mother, mourn the loss of a kind, indulgent, loving father and husband

COMPANION SIMPSON was made a Mason in Washington Lodge, No. 1, of Wilmington, Delaware, and was initiated May, 1823, Crafted in June, and raised a Master Mason in September of the same year. He retained his membership in this Lodge until his removal to the city of Philadelphia in 1831, when he dimitted. During the eight years of his membership there, he served by elec-

tion, as Secretary, as Junior Warden, as Senior Warden, and as Worshipful Master. His name was also prominently mentioned in connection with the office of Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Delaware.

He moved to Philadelphia, October 1st, 1831, but did not affiliate with any of the Lodges here, until February 9th, 1838, when he was elected a member of Concordia Lodge, No. 67. He became, at once, an active worker in Lodge No. 67, and from the day of his affiliation, until a short time previous to his death, he rarely missed a meeting of the Lodge. He was elected Junior Warden December 10th, 1841, Senior Warden, December 9th, 1842, and Worshipful Master, December 8th, 1843; thus serving in the several chairs for a second time, and becoming a member of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. He never held any other office in his Lodge.

He received the Mark and Most Excellent Master's degrees in Columbia Chapter, No. 91, January 16th, 1839, and was exalted to the Royal Arch on May 16th, 1839. In Chapter No. 91, he also received the degree of Royal Master, February 16th, 1842. He was elected Scribe of his Chapter in 1842, King in 1843, and High Priest in 1844, being installed into office and receiving the order of High Priesthood in the Grand Chapter, Dec. 27th, 1844.

For a number of years he filled by successive appointments, the place of Grand Sword Bearer in the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Free and Accepted Masons.

His name as an officer in the Grand Chapter, first appears December 27th, 1842, when he was appointed on the Committee of By-Laws; December 27th, 1843, he was appointed Captain of the First Vail; December 27th, 1844, Captain of the Third Vail; November 15th, 1845,

he was elected Grand Scribe, re-elected November 16th, 1846, elected Grand King November 15th, 1847, and Most Excellent Grand High Priest November 20th, 1848. He made the first appointments of District Deputy Grand High Priests. He served with ability for one year, when he declined a re-election.

His successor appointed him as one of the Committee on Accounts, or Committee of Finance, and with the exception of one year, he was re-appointed for twenty successive years. In 1869-1870, he was appointed on the Charity Committee.

He was of a genial nature; and what he done was with an earnestness, which was characteristic of him.

So deeply did the Masonic life and character of the father impress his children, that he had the pleasure of initiating into Masonry two of his sons; the second Companion J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON, our present Deputy Grand Secretary, in Concordia Lodge, No. 67, on March 13th, 1846, and the oldest son, Companion WM. H. SIMPSON, in Melita Lodge, No. 295. He also had the honor of initiating two of his grandsons, children of his oldest son, in Athelstane Lodge, No. 482, one while that Lodge met in Kensington Hall, and the other but a few short weeks ago, on January 5th, 1875, in this Temple. This was his last Masonic duty, and the last time he was out of his house.

He was a strict ritualist, whom it was a pleasure to hear work.

COMPANION SIMPSON was a tailor by occupation, which he followed in Wilmington and Philadelphia until about the year 1845, when he was appointed by James Page, then Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, as one of the officers

of customs ; here he remained until in 1857, when he was appointed an officer of the District Court of Philadelphia, in which office he continued until death.

Three score years and ten,—man's allotted time,—found him still at work, faithful to Masonry unto death.

He was taken ill a short time after his last visit to the Temple, and after much suffering, which he bore with firmness and resignation, with the belief that this life ends in life that does not end, he calmly, without a struggle, passed away on February 13th, 1875, in his seventy-fifth year.

His funeral took place on Wednesday, February 17th, 1875, and was attended by his Masonic brethren, and the officers of the Grand Chapter and many of its members. He was buried with the ceremonies of the Craft.

“The grave is not deep, it is the gleaming footmark of an angel who seeks us ; when the unknown hand sends the last arrow at the head of man, he bends, and the arrow merely takes off the crown of thorns from his wounds.”

The following resolutions are offered for the consideration of the Grand Chapter:

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter has heard with sorrow of the death of Companion Past Grand High Priest JAMES SIMPSON, one of its oldest Past Grand High Prists.

Resolved, That the sympathies of the Grand Chapter be tendered to the family of our deceased Companion in their great loss.

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter Hall be draped in the symbol of Mourning for the period of six months, as a token of our affection for our late Companion Past Grand High Priest JAMES SIMPSON.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest, ANDREW ROBENO, JR., addressing the Grand Chapter, said:

COMPANIONS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER:

“KNOW ye not that there is a Prince and a great man fallen in Israel?” *Death* loves a shining mark! and when the Arch Enemy leveled his relentless shaft at our illustrious and honored Companion, ROBERT HENRY PAT-TISON, he selected for his spoil a choice spirit from among us, and like the tall cedar of Libanus he yielded to the axe’s edge, “and the beauty of Israel is slain upon the high places.” “I am distressed for thee, my brother, very pleasant hast thou been unto us; how are the mighty fallen and the weapons of war perished.”

In the lapse of time during which this Grand Chapter has had an existence, the death roll contains no name whose memory deserves to be kept in perpetual remembrance and embalmed in the purer thoughts of our mind, and tender affections of our heart, more than our late Grand King. It is very difficult my Companions, for us, who were so familiar with him, to realize the fact, we shall never more see his noble presence among us, never again feel the warm fraternal grip of honest friendship, as was prompted by his generous heart. “*Yea, he was the man in whom my soul delighted, in whom next Heaven I’d trust.*” “His words were kindness and his deeds were love, his spirit humble and his life well spent; these then, and not a stone, shall be his monument.”

Two years ago, this very night, and my predecessor announced the death of JOHN WILSON, JR., the Grand

King, and now I am called upon to perform the same mournful duty as I announce the death of the Grand King ROBERT HENRY PATTISON. It seems strange that this excellent Companion should be stricken down, taken away in the height of usefulness, and in the prime and vigor of life. But the inscrutable ways of Providence are all wisely ordered, and, do what we will, a day arrives *when with*, or without, preparation or adieu, our friends leave us. While, therefore, nature will have its way, and our tears will fall upon the graves of our brethren, yet is the keenness of our sorrow and grief assuaged in the belief that the fading *crown* which we so willingly placed upon his manly brow, has been exchanged for one of fadeless life and glory.

REV. ROBERT HENRY PATTISON, D. D., was born near Cambridge, Dorchester County, Eastern Shore Maryland, on the twenty-second day of January, 1824, where he spent his early childhood days. In the thirteenth year of his age he entered Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and graduated in the class of 1843, of which that eminent scholar and distinguished *Mason*, Past Grand Master ROBERT A. LAMBERTON, ESQ., was one of the number. BROTHER PATTISON subsequently removed to the city of Baltimore, where he taught a select school for young men for two years. On April the 1st, 1846, he entered the ministry and connected himself with the Philadelphia Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, then holding its sessions in this city, and remained a faithful and earnest servant of God in that connection until the time of his death, a *period of twenty-nine years*, during which time he held many very important and responsible positions. He was *elected* for seven-

teen consecutive years the efficient Secretary of the Conference, and occupied some of the most important and prominent pulpits of that Church, as their pastor. In the years 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, he was made the Presiding Elder of the Harrisburg District. In 1868, he was elected by the Philadelphia annual Conference as their delegate to the General Conference, meeting that year in Chicago; and was honored by that highly intelligent and influential body by an election as one of its Secretaries. He was also honored by being appointed Secretary of the Church Extension Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was honored with other positions of trust and responsibility by his Ministerial brethren, all of which was discharged with scrupulous fidelity. At the time of his death he was the Pastor of "Western Church" of this city. BROTHER PATTISON'S Masonic record is as pure, bright, and conspicuous as that of his ministry. He was made a Mason on the 23d of February, 1858, in Hamilton Lodge, No. 274, West Philadelphia, and remained a member of that Lodge until October 24th, 1865, when he resigned and became a member of Melita Lodge, No. 295, meeting in this city, on October 22d, 1865. He was immediately appointed Chaplain of his Lodge in 1867 and elected Junior Warden in 1869; Senior Warden in 1870; and Worshipful Master in 1871. In Capitular Masonry BROTHER PATTISON was exalted to the Supreme degree of a Royal Arch Mason in Jerusalem Chapter, No. 3, on January 25th, 1864, and was elected King without previously serving as Scribe, on December 26th, 1870; and on December 25th, 1871, he was elected High Priest of the Chapter; and for many years was its Chaplain. BROTHER PATTISON

received the Orders of Christian Knighthood in Saint John's Commandery, No. 4, of this city, on December 23d, 1864, and remained a member until March 27th, 1866, when he resigned for the purpose of re-organizing Philadelphia Commandery, No. 2, and was accordingly elected first Eminent Commander under its re-organization. BROTHER PATTISON had the degrees of Cryptic Masonry conferred upon him in Philadelphia Council No. 11, on October 12th, 1864, and at the time of his death was the Grand Chaplain of the Grand Council of the State.

He received the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, up to the fourteenth, in Philadelphia Lodge of Perfection, on December 5th, 1866, and subsequently the thirty-second degree. He was appointed by Past Grand Master SAMUEL C. PERKINS, a member of the Library Committee, and was especially active in the preparation of the "Dedication Memorial" volume. At the Grand Commandery meeting in Pittsburg in 1867, he was elected their Grand Prelate; to which office he was re-elected in 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874. In 1862, Grand Master DAVID C. SKERRETT appointed him Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge, to which position he has been re-appointed by every subsequent Grand Master. In 1864, he was appointed by Grand High Priest GEORGE W. WOOD, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Chapter. At the Communication of the Grand Chapter held November 7th, 1873, he was elected Grand King, without previously serving as Grand Scribe; and at the Quarterly Communication held November 5th, 1874, he was elected for a second term, but was never installed in office on account of sickness that eventually culminated in death, which took place at his residence in this city, on Sunday afternoon the 14th day

of February, 1875, at half-past three o'clock, aged fifty-one years and twenty-three days.

In all the relations of life, COMPANION PATTISON carried with him the unlimited confidence and affections of his friends, and the profound respect of all who knew him.

He was a *true* Mason and a faithful friend; a tender and loving husband; a kind and indulgent father; a model of consistency as a Christian Minister; and the noblest work of God—an *honest man*. So that when the silver cord was loosed and the golden bowl was broken, and the weary wheels of life stood still, he died as the good man dies,—

“Night dews fell not more gently to the ground;
No weary worn out winds expired so soft;”

“and choirs of angels sang him to his rest.” He was laid quietly away in the lap of mother earth in the village church yard at Cambridge, there peacefully to rest amid the scenes and associations of his childhood's early days.

Rest, Brother, rest, thy journey's o'er,
Immortal life begun;
Now safely reached a calmer shore
Beyond a changing sun.

At the conclusion of the remarks of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Companion M. RICHARDS MUCKLE offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST:

It is proper at this time, with a view to perpetuate the memory of the good deeds and virtues of our deceased Brother and Companion, REV. R. H. PATTI-

son, that a suitable entry be made upon the Records of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

In accordance therewith, be it

Resolved, That in the decease of COMPANION REV. ROBERT H. PATTISON, late M. E. Grand King, this Grand Chapter has sustained a severe loss, and the order generally a void not readily to be supplied.

Resolved, That in the life of COMPANION PATTISON, there was displayed the career of a pure man and good Mason; a faithful friend; a devoted parent; a wise and considerate counselor; a kind conciliator; a rigid disciplinarian; an unselfish being; and an ardent and devoted laborer in the various works of Charity and Beneficence, in which he was engaged—in a word, the world has lost a good MAN.

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter sympathizes deeply with the relatives of our departed Companion, and tender them its condolence in the sad bereavement which they have sustained.

Resolved, That in respect to the memory of the deceased Companion and Official, this Grand Chapter display the usual mourning for the period of six months.

Resolved, That these proceedings be printed, and a copy sent to each subordinate Chapter; and a copy, attested by the Officers of this Grand Chapter, be transmitted to the relatives of our deceased Companion.



